



March  
2006

## California Postsecondary Education Commission

# Legislative Update March 2006

*This item discusses higher education legislation of interest to the Commission. Also included is a matrix of all bills being tracked by Commission staff as well as an updated membership list of the policy and fiscal committees that consider higher education issues.*

*The Commission advises the Governor and Legislature on higher education policy and fiscal issues. Its primary focus is to ensure that the state's educational resources are used effectively to provide Californians with postsecondary education opportunities. More information about the Commission is available at [www.cpec.ca.gov](http://www.cpec.ca.gov).*

Draft Commission Report

This report presents a summary of higher education legislation that is currently under consideration by the Legislature in this, the second year of the 2005 – 2006 Legislative session.

Policy areas include the Commission's three priorities -- accountability, higher education and the workforce, and access/success for students. In addition, proposals affecting other areas of importance to California's postsecondary education system are discussed, many of which relate directly or indirectly to the Commission's priorities. They include: student financial aid, student fee levels, facilities funding and policies, student transfer, and issues affecting higher education financing and administration.

### Accountability

#### **AB 196 (Liu) -- Commission Position -- Support**

This bill requires CPEC to administer a statewide accountability structure related to a specified set of goals and priorities. Amendments have focused on the specificity of the data collection requirements and the frequency of the reporting requirements. The current version of the bill has a biennial CPEC reporting requirement and seeks to minimize costs by having the initial implementation rely on existing data sources. CPEC staff has worked with the office of Assemblymember Liu in the development of the legislation and the identification of costs associated with its implementation. This bill is currently in the Senate Appropriations Committee.

### Financial Aid

#### **AB 358 (Liu) -- Commission Position -- Support**

This bill provides the policy basis for setting and

adjusting the maximum Cal Grant for students attending independent colleges and universities. Amendments were taken in the Senate that would have limited the adjustment to the maximum awards for students enrolling in four-year programs. Legislative staff has indicated that this limitation will be removed and that the phase in funding formula will be adjusted to reflect recent funding increases provided by the Governor and Legislature. The bill is currently being held at the Senate desk awaiting reassignment to the Senate Education Committee.

**SB 1264 (Alquist) -- Commission Position -- Watch** This bill would extend the current deadline for students to submit financial aid applications for Cal Grant awards from March 2<sup>nd</sup> to June 30<sup>th</sup> of each year. This bill is currently in the Senate Education Committee scheduled for hearing on March 29, 2006.

**SB 1383 (Ortiz) -- Commission Position -- Watch** This bill would specify that a student who has completed the coursework necessary to receive a high school diploma, but who has not passed the high school exit examination, satisfies the “equivalent of high school graduation” for purposes of eligibility for a Cal Grant award. This bill is currently in the Senate Education Committee scheduled for hearing on April 5, 2006.

### Transfer

**SB 652 (Scott) Commission Position -- Support** This bill would request the University of California to establish a common community college transfer curriculum for high demand majors. In order to provide additional time for the University to work with Senator Scott’s office, SB 652 became a two-year bill. This bill is currently in the Assembly Higher Education Committee.

**AB 2168 (Liu) -- Commission Position -- Watch** The bill expresses legislative intent that the three public postsecondary segments develop and maintain an integrated single common core curriculum for prospective transfer students, along with other related provisions. This bill is currently in the Assembly Higher Education Committee.

### State Facilities Policies

**ACR 34 (Liu) Commission Position -- Support** This resolution expresses the intent of the Legislature that the space utilization standards recommended by CPEC be used as guidelines for the development of higher education facilities. The resolution is scheduled for hearing in the Assembly Higher Education Committee on April 18, 2006. The bill is expected to be amended substantially.

**ACR 118 (Canciamilla) Commission Position -- Support** This measure would declare that the current space standards of the California Community Colleges are obsolete and should be rescinded immediately. The measure recommends the establishment of a limited set of contemporary space allocation policies for the community colleges based on actual use patterns and best practices, and that these policies be used as guidelines. The measure would express legislative intent that the Chancellor of the California Community Colleges, in consultation with the Director of Finance, develop these guidelines. This bill is currently in the Assembly Higher Education Committee. CPEC staff will continue to support this effort.

## Student Fee Levels

**AB 1072 (Liu) -- Commission Position -- Support** This bill establishes state policies for resident undergraduate systemwide student fees at the California State University (CSU) and the University of California (UC). This policy states that changes in student fees should be gradual, moderate, and predictable, and calls for budget decisions to be made in a timely manner to provide adequate notice to students about fee levels. The bill specifies that for UC, fees should not exceed 40% of the overall costs of education and for CSU, fees should not exceed 30% of the overall costs of education. The bill specifies that increases in undergraduate student fees should not exceed 8% in any academic year, and that, except in fiscal emergencies, student fee levels should be adjusted by annual changes in per capita personal income. Finally, the bill provides that student fees and financial aid policies should encourage students' timely completion of their degree program. This bill is currently in the Senate Education Committee.

**AB 1780 (Baca) -- Commission Position -- Watch** This bill would reduce the \$26 per unit resident student fee currently charged at the California Community Colleges to \$11 per unit, effective with the fall term of the 2006-07 academic year. This bill is currently in the Assembly Higher Education Committee.

**AB 473 (Liu) -- Commission Position -- Watch** This bill would permit the California Community Colleges' Board of Governors to set and adjust community college fees based on principles consistent with the Commission's student fee policy. A Community College Fee Working Group, convened by the Assembly Higher Education Committee, has been considering a number of possible amendments including a methodology for setting and adjusting fees as well as the use of fee revenue. CPEC staff has participated in these discussions. The bill was withdrawn from the Senate Appropriations Committee at the request of the author and re-referred to the Committee on Rules.

## CPEC Administration/Reorganization

**SB 445 (Ducheny) -- Commission Position -- Oppose** The amended version of this bill would reconstitute the Commission as the Commission on Statewide Postsecondary Education Policy and Planning. It was heard in the Senate Education Committee on April 28, 2005 and failed passage.

## Community College Finance

**SB 361 (Scott) -- Commission Position -- Watch** This bill proposes to replace the current system of program-based funding for the California Community Colleges with a new funding system that generally provides a single rate of per-FTES student funding for all community college districts, with some exceptions. The bill notes that community colleges' categorical programs providing direct services to students would continue to be funded separately in the budget. This bill is currently awaiting hearing in the Assembly Appropriations Committee.

## Compensation

**SB 1117 (Denham) -- Commission Position -- Watch** The bill would express the intent of the legislature that the Regents of the University of California revise and open to the public their processes for making salary and benefit decisions for management executives. The bill also expresses legislative intent to propose a constitutional amendment to eliminate the independence of the University of California, if the Regents refuse to voluntarily disclose the system of compensating University of California management executives. This bill is currently awaiting assignment in the Senate Rules Committee.

**SB 1181 (Maldonado) -- Commission Position -- Support** This bill would require CPEC to produce a report on academic and executive salaries in the public postsecondary education systems at the system and campus levels. This report would include data on the total compensation of specified executive-level and senior-level administrative positions. The report would be due on December 1, 2007, and every two years thereafter. This reporting requirement would take effect only if the resources necessary to produce the report are provided. This bill is currently in the Senate Education Committee scheduled to be heard on March 22, 2006.

**SB 1571 (Maldonado) -- Commission Position -- Watch** This bill would require the California State University Trustees and the California Community College Board of Governors, and request the University of California Regents, to post on their respective web sites policies for setting and adjusting compensation and approving transfer agreements, separation agreements, and settlement agreements for all of their employees. The bill would also require those governing boards to report the total compensation of executive-level and senior-level administrative positions in their segments, at the system and campus levels. This bill is in the Senate Education Committee scheduled to be heard on April 5, 2006.

### Facilities Funding and Policy

**AB 58 (Nunez) -- Commission Position -- Watch** This bill, which has died, would have provided for the Kindergarten-University Public Education Facilities Bond Act of 2006, for voter approval in the November 2006 statewide general election. This general obligation bond act proposed \$9.4 billion in construction funding -- \$6.5 billion for K-12 education, \$1.4 billion for the California Community Colleges, and \$690 million each for the California State University and the University of California. This bill would also have eliminated some current requirements regarding the calculation for existing K-12 school building capacity that must be submitted in support of applications for new construction funds. The bill contained other related provisions and other existing laws.

**AB 1836 (Daucher) -- Commission Position -- Watch** This bill would enact the Kindergarten-University Public Education Facilities Bond Act of 2006, to be decided by the voters at a regularly scheduled election. The bill proposes similar Bond Acts for the 2008, 2010, 2012, and 2014 ballots. The bill contains other related provisions and other existing laws. AB 1836 is currently awaiting assignment from the Assembly Rules Committee.

**SB 1164 (Runner) -- Commission Position -- Watch** This bill would enact the Kindergarten-University Public Education Facilities Bond Act of 2006, to be decided by the voters at a regularly scheduled election. The bill proposes similar Bond Acts for the 2008, 2010, 2012, and 2014 ballots. This bill contains other related provisions and other existing laws. This bill is currently in the Senate Education Committee.

**SB 1290 (Ducheny) -- Commission Position -- Watch** This bill would require that each offsite building acquired or constructed by a California Community College district meet the standards of the Field Act, or other appropriate standards for commercial buildings constructed within earthquake zones, as is set forth in the California Building Standards Code. This bill is currently in the Senate Education Committee scheduled for hearing on March 29, 2006.

## Higher Education Financing

**AB 2578 (Frommer) -- Commission Position – Watch** The bill would establish the California Hope Public Trust in state government, to be governed and administered by a nine-member board. The bill would require the Department of General Services to report to the trust every five years on inventories of all state-owned real estate and property and all lease agreements between any state agency and private or nonpublic management groups. The bill would require that at least every five years, the trust must review and make recommendations to the Legislature on property controlled by the State whose management should be transferred to the trust. This bill is similar to one vetoed by the Governor last year. AB 2578 is in the Assembly Rules Committee awaiting assignment.

**SB 1709 (Scott) -- Commission Position – Watch** This bill would enact the College Opportunity Act of 2006. The bill makes various findings and statements of legislative intent, with respect to the need to plan for, and fund, growth in the various segments of postsecondary education in the state between the operative date of the Act and 2015. This bill is currently in the Senate Education Committee.

## Private Postsecondary Education

**AB 2810 (Liu) -- Commission Position – Watch** This bill would express legislative findings and declarations relating to a report issued to the Legislature by the Bureau for Private Postsecondary and Vocational Education Operations and Administrative Monitor. The bill relates to the Private Postsecondary and Vocational Education Reform Act of 1989. The Act generally sets minimum standards of instructional quality, ethical and business practices, health and safety, and fiscal responsibility for private postsecondary and vocational educational institutions. This bill contains other related provisions. AB 2810 is has been doubled referred to the Assembly Committees on Higher Education and Business and Professions.

**SB 1473 (Figueroa) -- Commission Position – Watch** This bill would change to unspecified dates the reporting intervals by which the Joint Committee on Boards, Commissions and Consumer Protection, in cooperation with CPEC, is required to hold public hearings regarding the Bureau for Private Postsecondary and Vocational Education. SB 1473 also extends the inoperative date of July 1, 2007, to an unspecified date and continues funding of the Student Tuition Recovery Fund. This bill is currently in the Senate Committee on Business, Professions, and Economic Development.

## Workforce

**SB 1552 (Scott) -- Commission Position – Watch** This bill would extend the repeal date of the statute authorizing the California Community Colleges Economic and Workforce Development Program. The repeal date of the program would be extended to January 2013. This bill is in the Senate Education Committee.

MATRIX 2005-2006 LEGISLATIVE - PRIORITY BILLS updated as of 3/20/2006															
Bill Number	Author	Subject	CPEC Position	Dead/ 2 YR	1st Policy	1st Fiscal	1st Floor	2nd Policy	2nd Fiscal	2nd Floor	Conference	Enrolled	Vetoed	Chaptered	Comments
AB 196	Liu	Postsecondary education: accountability.	Support Position Letter	2nd Fiscal											08/25/2005-In committee: Set, first hearing. Held under submission.
AB 358	Liu	Student financial aid: Cal Grant Program.	Support Position Letter	2nd Floor											01/04/2006-In Senate. Held at Desk.
AB 473	Liu	Community colleges: student fees.	Watch	2nd Policy											08/15/2005-Withdrawn from committee. Re-referred to Com. on RLS.
AB 840	Arambula	Student financial aid: California Community College Transfer Cal Grant Entitlement Program.	Support, Pending	2nd Policy											03/07/2006-From committee chair, with author's amendments: Amend, and re-refer to committee. Read second time, amended, and re-referred to Com. on ED.
AB 1072	Liu	Public postsecondary education: student fee policy.	Support Position Letter	2nd Policy											02/02/2006-Referred to Com. on ED.
AB 1588	Negrete McLeod	Professional licensing boards: review and repeals.	Watch	2nd Policy											01/26/2006-In Senate. Read first time. To Com. on RLS. for assignment.
ACR 34	Liu	Public higher education facilities: space planning and utilization standards.	Support	1st Policy											08/29/2005-Re-referred to Com. on HIGHER ED. by unanimous consent.
ACR 118	Canciamilla	Community college facilities.	Support, Pending	1st Policy											02/21/2006-Referred to Com. on HIGHER ED.
SB 361	Scott	Community colleges: funding.	Watch	2nd Fiscal											11/17/2005-Hearing postponed by committee. (Refers to 8/25/2005 hearing)
SB 445	Ducheny	Postsecondary education: Commission on Statewide Postsecondary Education Policy and Planning.	Oppose Position Letter	Dead											01/31/2006-Returned to Secretary of Senate pursuant to Joint Rule 56.
SB 652	Scott	Public postsecondary education:	Support Position Letter	2nd Policy											06/09/2005-To Com. on HIGHER ED.

<b>SB 1117</b>	Denham	University of California: executive compensation.	<b>Watch</b>	1st Policy ■	01/19/2006-To Com. on RLS.
<b>SB 1181</b>	Maldonado	Public postsecondary education: Supplemental Report on Academic and Executive Salaries.	<b>Support, Pending</b>	1st Policy ■	03/15/2006-Set, first hearing. Hearing canceled at the request of author. Set for hearing April 5.
<b>SB 1383</b>	Ortiz	Student financial aid: Ortiz-Pacheco-Poochigian-Vasc oncellos Cal Grant Program.	<b>Support, Pending</b>	1st Policy ■	03/08/2006-Set for hearing April 5.

## Committee Membership

This part of the Legislative Update lists the members of the legislative policy and fiscal committees for higher education.

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### **Senate Appropriations Committee**

Kevin Murray, Chair  
Sam Aanestad, Vice-Chair  
Richard Alarcon  
Elaine Alquist  
Roy Ashburn  
Jim Battin  
Bob Dutton  
Martha Escutia  
Dean Florez  
Deborah V. Ortiz  
Charles Poochigian  
Gloria Romero  
Tom Torlakson

### **Senate Budget and Fiscal Review Committee**

Wes Chesbro, Chair  
Dennis Hollingsworth, Vice-Chair  
Dave Cox  
Denise Ducheny  
Bob Dutton  
Christine Kehoe  
Sheila Kuehl  
Alan S. Lowenthal  
Mike Machado  
Bob Margett  
Tom McClintock  
Jack Scott  
Joe Simitian

### **Senate Budget and Fiscal Review Subcommittee No. 1 on Education**

Jack Scott, Chair  
Bob Margett  
Joe Simitian

### **Senate Education Committee**

Jack Scott, Chair  
Abel Maldonado, Vice-Chair  
Elaine Alquist  
Jeff Denham  
Alan S. Lowenthal  
Bill Morrow  
Gloria Romero  
Joe Simitian  
Nell Soto  
Jackie Speier  
Tom Torlakson

### **Senate Education Subcommittee on Higher Education**

Jack Scott, Chair  
Jeff Denham  
Alan S. Lowenthal  
Abel Maldonado  
Gloria Romero  
Jackie Speier

### **Senate Select Committee on Colleges & Universities Admissions & Outreach**

Richard Alarcon, Chair  
Gilbert Cedillo  
Wes Chesbro  
Jeff Denham  
Abel Maldonado  
Jack Scott  
Edward Vincent



**Assembly Appropriations Committee**

Judy Chu, Chair  
Sharon Runner, Vice-Chair  
Karen Bass  
Patty Berg  
Ronald Calderon  
Hector De La Torre  
Bill Emerson  
Ray Haynes  
Betty Karnette  
Johan Klehs  
Mark Leno  
Alan Nakanishi  
Joe Nation  
Jenny Oropeza  
Mark Ridley-Thomas  
Lori Saldaña  
Mimi Walters  
Leland Yee

**Assembly Budget Committee**

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Rick Keene, Vice-Chair  
Juan Arambula  
John Benoit  
Rudy Bermudez  
Sam Blakeslee  
Wilma Chan  
David Cogdill  
Joe Coto  
Lynn Daucher  
Hector De La Torre  
Chuck DeVore  
Mervyn Dymally  
Noreen Evans  
Jackie Goldberg  
Loni Hancock  
Bob Huff  
Cindy Moñtanz  
Gene Mullin  
Pedro Nava  
Roger Niello  
Nicole Parra  
Fran Pavley  
George A. Plescia  
Michael Villines  
Lois Wolk

**Assembly Budget Subcommittee #2 on Education Finance**

Mervyn Dymally, Chair  
Wilma Chan  
Joe Coto  
Lynn Daucher  
Jackie Goldberg  
Bob Huff

**Assembly Education Committee**

Jackie Goldberg, Chair  
Mark Wyland, Vice-Chair  
Juan Arambula  
Joe Coto  
Loni Hancock  
Bob Huff  
Carol Liu  
Gene Mullin  
Fran Pavley  
Keith Richman  
Thomas Umberg

**Assembly Higher Education Committee**

Carol Liu, Chair  
Tim Leslie, Vice-Chair  
Karen Bass  
Shirley Horton  
Barbara Matthews  
Pedro Nava  
Ira Ruskin

**Joint Committee on Legislative Budget**

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Sen. Jim Battin  
Sen. Denise Ducheny  
Sen. Joseph Dunn  
Sen. Dennis Hollingsworth  
Sen. Tom McClintock  
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Asm. John Laird, Vice Chair  
Asm. Judy Chu  
Asm. Hector De La Torre  
Asm. Jackie Goldberg  
Asm. Rick Keene  
Asm. Kevin McCarthy  
Asm. Pedro Nava  
Asm. Sharon Runner





